



MEMORANDUM

TO: REPRESENTATIVE HOLLY HUGHES, CHAIR
FROM: JUSTIN WINSLOW, PRESIDENT & CEO
RE: SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 596
DATE: NOVEMBER 29, 2017
CC: MEMBERS OF THE TOURISM AND OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMITTEE

As the organization representing the second largest private employer in the state of Michigan, responsible for providing over 435,000 jobs across the state, the Michigan Restaurant Association is pleased to support Senate Bill 596.

First, we simply believe that having trails located near local restaurants and food establishments increases opportunities for our members. We testified in support of SB 596 in the Senate in large part because of the provision in the bill that specifically references trail connectors to nearby dining establishments as contributing to the public good of that community.

Restaurants are often the heart of the communities they serve and our experience has been that anytime we can promote the utility and expansion of Michigan's trail system, we are strengthening the economic viability of those communities and the restaurants that anchor them.

We strongly encourage members' support.